

Wednesday - 19 September 1951

1. Deputy Under Secretary of State Humelsine called WLP and stated that he was sending Gen. Smith a letter through WLP requesting that he write a letter to Chairman McCarran of the Senate Judiciary Committee approving and stating the reasons why John P. Davies of the Department of State was unable to answer certain questions put to him by the Internal Security Subcommittee on 8 and 10 August 1951. WLP prepared such a letter after consultation with Mr. Wisner and also prepared a direct reply to Mr. Humelsine with the approval of LHM and Col. Hansen. WLP felt very strongly that in view of the fact that Senator McCarran had not made a direct request of us but that the whole matter had arisen solely out of conversations between Mr. Humelsine and Committee Counsel Sourwine, the Director should reply only to Mr. Humelsine and not to the Senate. This position was approved and the appropriate letter signed by the Director.

2. WLP suggested to the Director that in view of the fact that the Director had briefed certain Senators and Congressmen on certain operations having to do with atomic energy, Senator McMahon should be informed as Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy in order that he not learn about them second-hand. WLP recommended that Dr. Chadwell brief Senator McMahon and Mr. Borden of the Committee staff but the Director disagreed and instructed WLP to brief Senator McMahon and Mr. Borden himself. The Director then set forth the background and nature of the operation and certain other matters concerning scientific intelligence which he desired WLP to convey to Senator McMahon.